



AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION
CLEETHORPES BOROUGH LOCAL PLAN
HUMBERSIDE
SITES L2 AND L3, LACEBY
JANUARY 1995

ADAS
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SUMMARY

An Agricultural Land Classification survey of 33.7 ha of land at Laceby, Cleethorpes was carried out in December 1994 and January 1995. At the time of survey 32.4 ha of the site was in agricultural use and 3 ha of this is Grade 2 land. These soils are well drained and typically consist of very slightly stony medium sandy loam topsoils and upper subsoils overlying stoneless to slightly stony loamy medium sand lower subsoils. Soil droughtiness is the factor limiting this land to Grade 2.

13.8 ha of Subgrade 3a land occur on this site. Two main soil types fall within this subgrade. The first consists of well drained profiles where medium sandy loam topsoils overlie loamy medium sand upper subsoils and loamy medium sand or medium sand lower subsoils. Soil droughtiness limits this land to Subgrade 3a. The second soil type falling in this subgrade consists of imperfectly drained soils where medium clay loam or sandy clay loam topsoils and upper subsoils overlie gleyed and slowly permeable sandy clay loam, heavy clay loam or clay at around 45 cm depth. In this case soil wetness restricts the land to Subgrade 3a.

15.6 ha of the site has been mapped as Subgrade 3b. Profiles are poorly drained, with medium clay loam, sandy clay loam or heavy clay loam topsoils overlying gleyed and slowly permeable sandy clay loam, heavy clay loam or clay subsoils at between 30 cm and 40 cm depth. Soil wetness is more restricting than on the adjoining Subgrade 3a land and the land is, thus, limited to Subgrade 3b.

The remainder of the land on this site consists of 0.6 ha of Urban land, 0.3 ha of Non Agricultural land and 0.4 ha of Agricultural Buildings at Hazeldene.

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CLEETHORPES BOROUGH LOCAL PLAN

1. INTRODUCTION AND SITE CHARACTERISTICS

1.1 Location and Survey Methods

The site lies approximately 6 Km south-west of Grimsby town centre, and covers a total area of 33.7 ha. A detailed Agricultural Land Classification survey was carried out in late December 1994 and early January 1995 when the soils were examined by hand auger borings at 100 m intervals predetermined by the National Grid. Two soil pits were dug in order to allow full profile descriptions to be made. The land quality was assessed using the methods described in "Agricultural Land Classification of England and Wales. Revised guidelines and criteria for grading the quality of agricultural land" (MAFF, 1988).

1.2 Land Use and Relief

At the time of survey 96% of the site was in agricultural use (principally under winter cereals but with small areas of set-aside and ley grass) while the remainder consisted of Urban and Non Agricultural land and Agricultural Buildings. Site altitude varies from 25 m AOD in the west to 15 m AOD in the north-east and the land is generally level to gently sloping (0 - 2°) with a northerly or easterly aspect.

1.3 Climate

Grid Reference	: TA 207 069
Altitude (m)	: 20
Accumulated Temperature above 0°C (January - June)	: 1386 day°C
Average Annual Rainfall (mm)	: 639
Climatic Grade	: 1
Field Capacity Days	: 146
Moisture Deficit (mm) Wheat	: 107
Moisture Deficit (mm) Potatoes	: 100

1.4 Geology, Soils and Drainage

The site is underlain by Cretaceous chalk over which lies a thick covering of till. In parts of the north and west the till is, in turn, overlain by deposits of glacial sand and gravel.

The soils on this site closely reflect the drift geology. Where there are deposits of glacial sand and gravel the profiles are generally well drained (falling in Wetness Class I) and consist of very slightly stony medium sandy loam topsoils overlying very slightly to slightly stony sandy loam, loamy sand or sand subsoils. Horizons of chalky gravel begin in places at between 60 cm and 80 cm depth.

Where the soils have formed in deposits of till the profiles are generally imperfectly or poorly drained, falling in Wetness Classes III and IV. Typically very slightly stony medium clay loam or sandy clay loam topsoils and, in places, upper subsoils, overlie gleyed and slowly permeable sandy clay loam, heavy clay loam or clay.

2. AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

The ALC grades occurring on this site are as follows:

<u>Grade/Subgrade</u>	<u>Hectares</u>	<u>Percentage of Total Area</u>
1		
2	3.0	8.9
3a	13.8	40.9
3b	15.6	46.3
4		
5		
(Sub total)	(32.4)	(96.1)
Urban	0.6	1.8
Non Agricultural	0.3	0.9
Woodland - Farm		
- Commercial		
Agricultural Buildings	0.4	1.2
Open Water		
Land not surveyed		
(Sub total)	(1.3)	(3.9)
TOTAL	33.7	100

2.1 Grade 2

Grade 2 land occurs in the north-west of this site. The soils are well drained, falling in Wetness Class I, and typically consist of very slightly stony (containing 3 - 4% small and medium-sized chalks, flints and sandstones) medium sandy loam topsoils and upper subsoils overlying stoneless to slightly stony (containing 2 - 6% chalks, flints and sandstones) loamy medium sand lower subsoils. These soils are slightly droughty and it is this factor which limits the land to Grade 2.

2.2 Subgrade 3a

Subgrade 3a land occurs in the north and west. Two main soil types fall within this subgrade. The first consists of well drained (Wetness Class I) profiles where medium sandy loam topsoils overlie loamy medium sand upper subsoils and loamy medium sand or medium sand lower subsoils. Horizons of chalky gravel occur at depth in places and soil droughtiness is the factor limiting the ALC grade of the land.

The second main soil type consists of medium clay loam or sandy clay loam topsoils and occasionally gleyed upper subsoils overlying gleyed and slowly permeable sandy clay loam, heavy clay loam or clay lower subsoils at around 45 cm depth. These profiles are imperfectly drained, falling in Wetness Class III, and soil wetness is the factor limiting the land to Subgrade 3a.

2.3 Subgrade 3b

Land in this subgrade occurs in the south and north-east. The soils are poorly drained, falling in Wetness Class IV, and typically consist of medium clay loam, sandy clay loam or heavy clay loam topsoils overlying gleyed and slowly permeable sandy clay loam, heavy clay loam or clay subsoils at between 30 cm and 40 cm depth. Soil wetness is, thus, the principal factor limiting this land to Subgrade 3b.

2.4 Urban

This category includes a house and garden in the south of the site and an area of disturbed land consisting of concrete platforms and rubble on the site of the now demolished nursery in the south.

2.5 Non-Agricultural

This refers to an area adjoining the agricultural buildings at Hazeldene which has been used to dump farm machinery, and also includes a soil mound.

2.6 Agricultural Buildings

This category refers to the buildings at Hazeldene, in the west of the site.

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MAP